

from substituting amino acids of SEQ ID NO:46 at the specific position. Thus, applicant respectfully submits that there is no undue burden on the examiner to search claims 49-53 together. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that claims 49-53 be examined together considering the applicant's election of Group XXI.

Applicant awaits examination of the application on its merits. If there are any questions regarding this submission, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 20 May 2002

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Washington Harbour  
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20007-5109  
Telephone: (202) 672-5569  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By S. A. Best, Reg. No. 29,768

for Stephen B. Maebius  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 35,264